

Synopsis

Title of Exhibit:

The 1954 Liberty Series and Its Uses

Purpose of Exhibit:

A philatelic exhibit displaying stamps and postal stationery of the 1954 Liberty Series, and showing how different denominations in the series were postally used.

This exhibit features postally used domestic and international covers and postal stationery.

Exhibit Plan:

The exhibit begins with mint examples of the individual definitives from the ½ cent to \$5.00 value, with their wet and dry printing varieties, their small and large hole coil varieties, the various gum varieties, and the tagged varieties. Examples of how the different denominations were postally used on domestic, commercial, and international mail are shown next. Lastly, postal stationery is shown.

Observations:

The eight cent Pershing stamp has not been included in this exhibit, as it appears that most reputable philatelic sources have chosen to consider it not part of the Liberty series. I agree with their conclusions. Postal stationery issued during the period of the Liberty Series usage existence has been included in this exhibit, as the design elements of the postal stationery shown here are similar to those of the stamps of this series.

Items of Particular Interest:

The most challenging item in the exhibit to research is the bank tag using the \$1.00 Patrick Henry stamp (Frame 5, page 6). It was challenging to determine the rates used at the time of mailing, and to determine how the various fees associated with mailing this item were calculated. My favorite item in this exhibit is the cover showing the 4-1/2 cent Hermitage stamps (Frame 4, page 6) because of the stamped and red-penciled markings, and the use of the airmail stamps in combination with the Flag and Liberty series stamps.

Philatelic References:

Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting, May 16, 2006

National Postal Museum website, Arago, Liberty Series

The Liberty Series: Lawrence, Eeles and Wawrukiewicz

Wikipedia: History of United States Postal Services rates

www.usstamps.org/glossary

Yahoo Groups: 1954 Liberty Series Group